



# The GRANGE

Issue: 65

November

1996

## CHAIR'S REPORT

What a great autumn it is! The Grange is bustling with activity and visitors. Volunteers have been costumed and new volunteers are joining shifts. New curtains (thanks to Nancy Loft) are hanging and the air ducts have been cleaned.

The Grange is now part of "Family Sundays at the AGO" with our treasure hunts, pin pricking, costumes and baking. Daily Pursuits starts again this month in a new format and with a new team of interpreters.

The docent/curatorial lectures have been enthusiastically received and well attended. Kettledrum's sherry party for the Tissot Symposium was the social highlight of the season.

Thank you to Annie O'Brien and Avril Stringer for facilitating our September and October volunteer Suppers. Katherine Ashenburg, author of *How To Read An Ontario Town* is our guest speaker on November 26. The final fall lunch-time lecture is November 14 at 1pm with Felicity Pope, Curator of the Canadian Museum of Health and Medicine, speaking on Health and Medicine in the Nineteenth Century. Do bring a friend and enjoy Kettledrum's fantastic desserts.

We look forward to December and the house in all its Christmas finery (The Junior committee are our decorators) and to the Christmas Concerts on December 8 and 15.

- Flo Morson, Chair



The Grange hosted a Tissot Symposium on Sat. Oct. 19. Part of the event featured period costumes by collector Allen Suddon, placed in various rooms throughout the house. Sherry and biscuits were served to a crowd of over 60 guests. It was a grand finale to the AGO Tissot Exhibit.

## THE FESTIVE SEASON AT THE GRANGE

From December 3rd to 30th, The Grange will be festooned in its Christmas finery - pine wreaths on the windows, pine boughs and bittersweet berries on the tables and fireplace mantels and cedar encircling the staircase. This year the Junior Committee at the AGO will be decorating the house. For many, this time of year marks a special trip to The Grange just to see and smell the house. A taste of mulled cider and shortbread along with seasons greetings from the volunteer interpreters complete one's visit to the house during this festive time of year.

The Grange Annual Christmas concert will be held on Sunday, December 8th and Sunday December 15, at 4:30 pm in The Grange. The theme is Celtic. Hot mulled cider and Grange shortbread will be served.

Tickets are \$15.00 and can be reserved by phoning Program Registration at (416) 979-6608.

Reserve early as seating is limited - the last 2 years our concerts have been sold out.



**The Grange  
Volunteer Committee  
1996**

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**THE GRANGE  
SECRETARY-COORDINATOR**

Peggy Eades  
TEL: (416)979-6660 ext237  
Art Gallery of Ontario

**WELCOME NEW  
VOLUNTEERS**

Warren Claxton - Wed.Day shift  
Debbie Motton - Wed.2-6pm  
Louise Valoir - Saturday

# COMING EVENTS

**- Lunch Time Lectures - SERIES**

The last of the series on Fashion, Footwear and Health  
Guests may either bring a brown bag lunch or eat at the restaurant.  
Dessert and coffee/tea will be served after the lecture.

Fee: AGO Members \$10.00  
Non-Members \$12.00

**Thursday, November 14, 1996 @ 1:00 P.M.**

Speaker: Felicity Pope,

Curator, The Canadian Museum of Health & Medicine

Topic: Health and Medicine in the 19th Century

for tickets please call AGO Program Registration @ (416)979-6608

For more information call (416) 979-6660 ext 237.

**Volunteer Training Suppers**

**Tuesday, November 26, 1996 @ 5:30 PM**

Speaker: Katherine Ashenburg

(Author of Going To Town)

Katherine will speak on "How to read an Ontario town."

See sign-up sheets in our Volunteer lounge.

**Docent Training Programs 1996-97**

Each topic is offered during the day on Tuesdays or on Wednesday evenings in the Education Theatre. Free to The Grange Volunteers.  
See bulletin board for sign-up information.

Series (2) BODY AND SOUL

Nov. 12th/13th, Nov. 19th/20th and Dec. 3rd/4th.

Series (3) THE DISQUIETING MUSE

Jan. 21st/22nd, Feb. 4th/5th, and Feb. 18th/19th.

Series (4) THE INVISIBLE WOMEN in the AGO Collection.

Apr. 8th/9th, Apr. 22nd/23rd, and May 6th/7th.

**Celtic Christmas Musicales at The Grange**

**Sunday, December 8, 1996 @ 4:30 PM**

**Sunday, December 15, 1996 @ 4:30 PM**

Shortbread and Hot Mulled Cider will be served.

Tickets are \$15.00 and can be reserved by phoning Program Registration at 979-6608. For further information call The Grange at 979-6660

**THE DAY CAPTAINS**

We would like to acknowledge the leadership, initiative, and communication that the following volunteers have brought to their respective shifts.

Wednesday Day Shift (12-4 PM): CATHERINE STROUD

Wednesday Bridge (4-6 PM): HELVI HUNTER

Wednesday Evening (6-9 PM): MARGARET McGUIGAN

Thursday: JUNE O'BRIEN Friday: BEVERLEY SUTTON

Saturday: HELEN BROWN Sunday: EDNA RIGBY



## VOLUNTEER ENRICHMENT OUTSIDE THE GRANGE

### A Visit to Sir Georges-Etienne Cartier House

*The following is a report on a visit to the Sir Georges-Etienne Cartier House by volunteer Diana Smyth. This summer, Parks Canada presented two 'interactive animation' programs exploring Victorian life and lifestyles. Actors in period costume re-created personae who worked for the Cartier family circa 1860 -1865.*

I had the pleasure of taking part in "Exquisite Politeness, Etiquette Requires It", which discusses the proper form in presenting oneself as a guest in a well-appointed household, in particular the home of Sir Georges-Etienne Cartier, one of the fathers of Confederation.

We were welcomed by Mr. Cartier's butler, Thomas, who graciously attended to us in his master's absence. He greeted many of us by name; I was introduced to the group as Mrs. Stephens, the wife of the neighbourhood tavern keeper. Thomas, the butler, commented very favourably on the Stephens' house draft.

We were lead in an order of precedence, with me as Mrs. Stephens at the head, into the parlour. There, we were met by Mrs. Perry, housekeeper to Mrs. Cartier. Mrs. Perry is a very refined woman of great taste and propriety. Her air of disdain for some of the group's appearance was amusing. She and Thomas were fascinated by many of the 'guests', with our cameras and odd style of dress, but greeted us warmly nonetheless. She was especially shocked by the habit of the men in the group to have their shirts unbuttoned from

the neck. One comment she made in particular was very funny. Observing one lady's purse, she was amazed at its size, and remarked that next time she visits she should leave her bathroom at home.

Mrs. Perry led us in our first etiquette lesson, that of how to present oneself in the parlour. This included how to sit and how to greet others in the room. Many of the group were unfamiliar with the idea of men's and ladies' chairs: men's chairs have arm rests, ladies' chairs do not, for the simple purpose of allowing the lady's full hoop skirt to 'sit' properly.

Next, two members of the group, addressed as their adopted character, were invited into the adjoining dining room, where Mrs. Perry and Thomas instructed them in the fine art of dining at a Victorian table. Mrs. Perry was astonished at the guests' manners, but graciously guided them through a summary of a full course meal.

We then proceeded to the third floor, where we were greeted by the maid, who went very much against what was proper, and invited us into her mistress' bedroom. There, she gave us a peek at the under garments of the average woman of the 1860's. She made us promise not to tell Mrs. Perry that we had been in the room, or there would be trouble. However, Mrs. Perry did arrive before we were clear of the room, and promptly gave the maid her notice.

I was fascinated by Mrs. Perry, and would love to know her

background. Her manner was so ladylike and proper, and every time she entered the room, was careful to remind us to not step on her dress. Her presence was very impressive indeed.

Our final lesson was in post-dinner conversation, held in the drawing room. I was called in for this demonstration, and although I had held up very well in understanding our lessons (the tour was in French), I confess to a sudden grip of apprehension because I knew I would have to speak French. But Mrs. Perry came to my rescue, and facilitated my brief conversation with great deftness.

After taking part in this very enjoyable recreation of the Victorian household, I began to think about how this concept might be adopted by The Grange.

It is a very simple idea. The 'stage' is always in place. All that is required is an idea of how to bring the house to life through the people who once lived there, and give them the words to present themselves in an entertaining and educational manner appropriate to their era and station in life.

- Diana Smyth, Research

*The Grange encourages volunteers to participate in off-site learning situations. Please check with Flo Morson, The Grange Chair, for tuition arrangements. Your experience is an enrichment to all. We ask for a report and information that can be shared with all the volunteers at The Grange.*



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE AGO

## SPECIAL TALK

DAVID SILCOX

author of

Painting Place: The Life and  
Work of David B. Milne

will speak on

"David Milne in Toronto"

Wednesday, December 11, 1996

Jackman Hall @ 7:30 pm.

free

Based on 25 years of research,  
Painting Place is the first full-  
scale biography documenting the  
life and work of David Milne  
(1882-1953).

Silcox will be available for a book  
signing following the talk.

## REMINDER

Please submit your news articles  
for The Grange January  
Newsletter by  
**DECEMBER 20, 1996.**

## FAMILY SUNDAYS

Featuring activities and interactive  
art fun for all ages. Explore, cre-  
ate, and expand your horizons.  
Family activities on Sundays are  
included with Gallery admission.  
Runs from October 20 through to  
December 15, 1996.

At **The Grange**, Family Sundays  
include activities such as pin-  
pricking, childrens' artifact hunt  
and dressing-up in period clothes.

There are also Sunday studio ses-  
sions at the Anne Tanenbaum  
Gallery School from 1-4 pm and  
Live musical performances in the  
Walker Court in the Tanenbaum  
Centre of European Art at 2 pm.

## ALL THAT'S JAZZ

The Vocal Scene

FEATURING THEODORE GENTRY  
AND FRIENDS

OCTOBER 9 - DECEMBER 18

Toronto's most exciting jazz vocal  
talent comes together at the Art  
Gallery of Ontario. Each

**Wednesday evening** in the Walker  
Court, a different performer will  
be backed by a trio featuring Mike  
Lewis (piano), Bill Graham  
(drums) and Jimmy Amaro (bass).  
Local music personality Theodore  
Gentry hosts each evening.

Admission to all performances is  
free unless otherwise noted.

Licensed.

**November 6, 8:30 pm**

Beatrice Rose

**November 13, 8:30 pm**

Jeff Jones

**November 20, 7:30 pm**

Theodore Gentry:

Sarah - I love You!

A Tribute to Sarah Vaughan

**November 27, 6:00 pm**

Michael Danso:

The Duke Ellington Songbook

**December 11, 7:00 pm**

GALA

(Note: cover charge)

Arlene Smith 7:00 pm

8:00 pm TBA

**December 18, 8:00 pm**

Sharron McLeod

For general information  
please call  
(416) 979-6648

## CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

**DAYS AT THE  
AGO GIFT SHOP**

**Thursday, November 28**

A special Christmas shopping day  
will take place for volunteers and  
members of the Art Gallery of  
Ontario. Come and have first  
dibs, extra discounts free gift  
wrap and mingle with friends in a  
festive Weston Hall.

**Tuesday, December 3**

Another shopping day will be  
open to other volunteer groups  
and corporations.

## THE MAGIC TOY SHOP

Nov. 27, 1996 - Feb. 1997

In Prints, Drawings and  
Photographs galleries.

This annual exhibition features the  
Walter Trier collection of  
antique toys.

## OZIAS LEDUC: AN ART OF LOVE AND REVERIE

Oct. 19, 1996 - Jan. 12, 1997

In Special Exhibits galleries

## PATERSON EWEN: EARTHLY WEATHERS- HEAVENLY SKIES

Sept. 20, 1996 - Jan. 12, 1997

In the Contemporary galleries

## NARELLE JUBELIN

Sept. 25, 1996 - Jan. 5, 1997

Projects by this Australian artist.  
In the Contemporary galleries

## CINEMATHEQUE ONTARIO

Enjoy repertory cinema at the  
Gallery's Jackman Hall.

Gallery members are also  
Cinematheque Ontario members.  
For more information call 979-  
6660 ext.248 or pick up a film  
listing at the main AGO entrance.



## CANDLE ALERT

Fire was an all-too-common disaster in households of the 1830s, and one reason it occurred so often was that people were obliged to use candles after dark. Unfortunately, candles are no less dangerous today than they were when the Boultons lived at The Grange.

Volunteers must remember that a lit candle is always a potential fire hazard. Karen Craig, the new manager of AGO Protection Services, has asked us **NEVER TO LIGHT A CANDLE ANYWHERE IN THE HOUSE WHICH CANNOT BE WATCHED BY A VOLUNTEER AT ALL TIMES.** This directive is of the utmost importance.

In addition, the House Committee continues to request the very limited use of candles on the first and second floors. Drafts cause the melted wax to drip onto furniture and tablecloths, and the resulting clean-up is not only time-consuming but also damaging to some of our artifacts.

Because most of the pot lights on the floor have been removed, we have a serious problem with inadequate light, especially in the Young Girl's Bedroom. We are permitting volunteers to light candles on the mantel of that room (**NOT** on the table and **NOT** on the chest of drawers in the Best Bedroom). Please remember, however, that the fire hazard continues to exist, and these candles must be extinguished if there are not enough volunteers to watch the room at all times.

## LOOK BUT DON'T TOUCH !

Curiosity and a strong desire to learn as much as possible about our beautiful house are what we want in every volunteer.

At our September 17 training supper, Helvi Hunter encouraged all of us to take a little time and go behind the barriers to look carefully at the contents of each room. After all, that's the way to become familiar with The Grange artifacts.

A word of caution, however, from the House Committee: **PLEASE REFRAIN FROM TOUCHING.** Frequent handling means extra cleaning and polishing for the Monday volunteers, and much more important, it increases the chances of damage and breakage.

Many thanks for your consideration.

*-Jane Heinemann, The House Committee*

## VOLUNTEER ENRICHMENT

*The following article was written by one of our volunteers who attended a symposium at Doon Heritage Crossroads in Kitchener.*

On September 21, 1996, I attended the conference "**From Rations to Riesling: Remembering Ontario's Heritage**" at Doon Heritage Crossroads in Kitchener, Ontario.

After morning coffee and the introduction of the Culinary Historians of Ontario who staged this event, I listened to Sandra Oliver, editor of Food History News: "So who needs food history anyway?: why people celebrate their culinary traditions". She is a wonderful speaker. It was delightful to listen to her talk about senses and how they should be incorporated when cooking at historical sites.

After lunch, there were three workshops: Historic Kitchens, Raking out the Coals and Open Hearth Cookery. The "hands-on" approach of these sessions was very interesting as we utilized the oven trying different recipes. Not all recipes were applicable to The Grange; however, the information and the general interaction made for an exciting day.

I brought some of the recipes back with me. The others will be published in future newsletters by the Ontario Culinary Historians.

*- Aleksandra Sorgic, Friday Volunteer*

## FROM NEWSPAPERS PAST

*The Globe*

**The Baths** (opposite Stones Hotel, King Street) for Ladies and Gentlemen are now open.

Hot and cold baths can be had at all hours from six o'clock a.m. to ten o'clock p.m.

Entrance for Ladies on King St.  
Entrance for Gentlemen on the lane leading to the Racquet Court.

### Terms:

Family Ticket for the Season  
- L 4.0.0

Single Ticket for the Season  
- L 2.1.0

Hot Bath (single) - L 0.1.1

Cold Bath (single) - L 0.1.03

*-Toronto July 18th 1844.*

## LYMAN, FAN & Co.

### Druggist

### No. 5 City Buildings King St.

Keep constantly on hand a complete and extensive assortment of DRUGS & MEDICINES, Flesh, Hair, Nail and Toothbrushes.

PERFUMERY, etc. which they will sell on liberal terms.

*- Toronto, September 9, 1844*

(Lyman & Fan also advertised Paint including "Dry White Lead, Red Lead" -- October 22, 1844)

## MR. BERTHON

(from London)

Portrait Painter at Mrs. Ganton's Wellington, Late Market Street Toronto.

*- January 1, 1845*

An item from December 1844 advertised:

"Fresh grapes available."

## Ownership

On August 23, 1797, at an auction in Montreal, Emanuel Allen became the last slave to be sold in Canada.

*from The Globe & Mail, Aug. 23, 1996*





Food and Cooking in 18th Century Britain by Jennifer Stead and  
Food and Cooking in 19th Century Britain by Maggie Black.

These two booklets from English Heritage provide much insight to the below-stairs areas of The Grange. While neither covers our exact period or circumstances, the appropriate segments in each provide historical and relevant information concerning equipment, cooking methods and eating habits of the English during this time, and as such, much can be considered applicable to the transplanted English Boultons.

Both books are easy to read, containing illustrations and descriptions of equipment that you will recognize, and as long as we remember that the household may have used items that were used prior to our period, but not those

that came after we should find this information useful. Likewise, the recipes of the earlier period might still be applicable, while those of the latter half of the 19th century would not. Unfortunately the 19th century volume contains a number of typographical errors, most notably on page 18 where I believe the date should read 1800-1840, exactly covering the period of The Grange.

Most of the recipes are outside the range of what we usually cook at The Grange, but provide understanding of eating habits which should help us answer the questions on this subject which are often directed at us. 'The Rich Seed Cake' in the earlier volume is one recipe that some of us may want to try.

These booklets are to be found in the reference section of our library and I would urge all kitchen interpreters, as well as anyone who is interested in the foods of the early 19th century, to take the time to peruse them.

- Anna Patrick

## books, books and more...

A recently published book, available at your public library, Going to Town: Architectural Walking Tours in Southern Ontario by Katherine Ashenburg, is well worth looking at. Some of the places it covers are Cobourg, Goderich, Merickville, Picton and Stratford. Katherine is our guest speaker for the November Volunteer supper and will be on hand for our annual Bus Trip on May 6, 1997 as we take an architectural tour of Port Hope.

Margaret Atwood's new book, Alias Grace is about a famous murder in Richmond Hill in 1843. It has been ordered for The Grange library and would also make the ideal Christmas gift for those special people on your list.

If you want a preview of what Grace Marks is said to have done, read the tenth chapter of Susanna Moodie's book, Life in the Clearings which is also available in The Grange library.

For more information on the Regency period in England, pick up one of Georgette Heyer's romantic novels which depict the period extremely well.

Barbara Cole, Wednesday afternoon volunteer, recently donated to the library, a beautiful colour copy of "A Visit Through The Grange" with Jean Minhinnick from the March 1984 copy of *City and Country Home* magazine.

### RECENT ACQUISITIONS AT THE GRANGE LIBRARY

- Cameron, James M. Good for what ails you, self-help remedies from the 19th century Canada. Burnstown, Ont., General Store Publishing House, 1995.
- Collins, Lousa Sarah, (c.1797- ). Louisa's diary, the journal of a farmer's daughter - Dartmouth, 1815. Ed. by Dale McClare. Halifax, N.S., Nova Scotia Museum, 1989.
- Dixon, Thomas, 1781-1849. Memoirs. Toronto, The Grange, 1996.
- Portraits in the Grange, with reference to painter and painting. Toronto, The Grange, 1996.
- Downie, Jill. A passionate pen, the life and times of Faith Fenton. Toronto, Harper/Collins, 1996.
- Berchem, F.R. The Yonge Street Story, 1793-1860: an account from letters, diaries and newspapers. Toronto, Natural Heritage/Natural History, 1996. (2 cop. Vol.Shelf)
- Stead, Jennifer. Food and Cooking in 18th Century Britain: History and Recipes. London, English Heritage, 1985.
- Black Maggie. Food and Cooking in 19th Century Britain: History and Recipes. London, English Heritage. 1985.